

FRUITFUL Manitoba

HOMES FOR
MILLIONS

THE
BEST WHEAT LAND
AND THE RICHEST
GRAZING COUNTRY
UNDER
THE SUN

WESTWARD
THE STAR OF EMPIRE TAKES ITS WAY.

AREA 116,021 SQUARE MILES



HON. THOS. GREENWAY,

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & IMMIGRATION.

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AT KINGSTON



ONTARIO CANADA


The EDITH and LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



Queen's University at Kingston

Introduction

1884
1903-AMH
20.-

O ANY DISSATISFIED with present surroundings, or desirous of improving the immediate prospects of themselves, or of those dependent upon them, this pamphlet is specially addressed. It is so addressed in the hope that the information it contains will aid in a choice that will bring peace, plenty and prosperity to all its readers.

To all who desire to secure by honest effort, a home and competence, with a fair prospect of a larger measure of success, Manitoba extends a cordial invitation, confident that she possesses natural resources well calculated to gratify such desires. This confidence is not of a speculative or doubtful character or origin, but is the result of practical experience sufficiently diversified and extensive to fully justify it.

The reader is asked to peruse these pages with the assurance that every statement is accurate and capable of exact proof. There can be no good purpose served in inducing people to come here to make a home on representations that may prove incorrect and disappointing.

Better, far better, that a plain statement of fact which will bear investigation be made at the outset. It is undoubtedly true that Manitoba's resources on the one hand have at times been greatly exaggerated, and on the other hand greatly depreciated. Both extremes are to be avoided, and will be in these pages.

Fuller information will be given by addressing the MANITOBA EMIGRATION OFFICE, 30 YORK STREET, TORONTO, ONT., or MONCTON, N.B.

(1891)

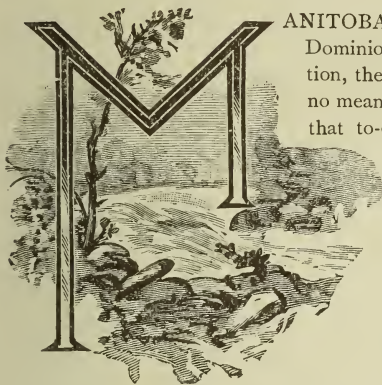
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MANITOBA'S PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
LEGISLATIVE AND DEPARTMENTAL BUILDING, WINNIPEG
DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTE, WINNIPEG
COURT HOUSE, E. J. D., WINNIPEG
LANDS TITLES OFFICE WINNIPEG

Manitoba

Its Early History—Geographical Position, Etc.



MANITOBA is one of the seven Provinces of the Dominion of Canada. Though, with one exception, the youngest member of the group, it is by no means the least, and it may be safely stated that to-day, both in Canada and abroad, it is attracting more attention and exciting more interest than any other Province in the Dominion. Manitoba is as nearly as possible the exact centre of the North American continent. By the Canadian Pacific Railway, the capital of Manitoba is 1,424 miles from Montreal, the Atlantic Seaport, and 1,482 miles from Vancouver on the Pacific.

The area of Manitoba is 116,021 square miles, equal to about 74,000,000 acres. It extends about 300 miles from East to West, and the Southern boundary is determined by the 49° parallel of latitude. It will be observed, therefore, that Manitoba lies further south than England, Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Russia and the Vistula Provinces.

The general feature of the country is that of a broad rolling prairie, relieved at intervals, by gently rising hills, and numerous bluffs and lakelets.

This is in striking contrast with the monotonous flat prairie so characteristic of Dakota and Minnesota to the South. Making a farm and establishing a home is not a difficult task in Manitoba. In by-gone days and in a wooded country such as Eastern Canada, where every acre of the land had to be cleared of heavy timber, it was, indeed, a lonely, difficult task. Yet in spite of all that, the sturdy pioneer who stuck manfully to it succeeded, as the happy homes of wealthy settlers abundantly testify. But the old settlers of to-day in Eastern Canada, who fifty years since left Great Britain and Ireland to make their way in life, laughingly remark that those who go to Manitoba have no pioneering to do, and proud as they are of their own success, willingly admit that as much progress can be made on a prairie farm in five years from the date of settlement as could be made in twenty-five years upon a "bush" or wooded farm, and that with much less expenditure of energy and muscle. By some it may be imagined that being so far inland, Manitoba is not a well watered country. This, however, is the reverse of the fact, it being exceedingly well watered.

Scattered throughout the province there are numerous rivers and small lakes, whilst on the eastern boundary and in the northern and north-western parts there are such large bodies of water as the Lake of the Woods, 1,500 square miles in extent; Lake Winnipeg, 280 miles long and containing 8,500 square miles; Lake Winnipegosis, 1,936 square miles, and Lake Manitoba with an area of 1,900 square miles. Winnipeg, the capital, is about 400 miles from Fort William and Port Arthur on Lake Superior, from which points vessels proceed direct to the Atlantic tidewater at Montreal. It is extremely probable that within a few years vessels will be so constructed as to carry cargoes of grain direct from Lake Superior ports to Liverpool and London without transshipping or breaking bulk at all. The great grain-producing fields of Manitoba may be considered as practically within 400 miles of the sea-board. Then again some 650 or 700 miles to the north there is Hudson's Bay, to which point it is proposed to build a railway from Winnipeg. This, when completed, will place the whole of the

Province of Manitoba nearer to Liverpool than Montreal is to day. In addition, therefore, to being internally a well watered country, Manitoba, for an inland province, possesses exceptional facilities, both by rail and by water, for exporting its surplus commodities. These are points those who propose settling in a new country would do well to consider.

Manitoba, though essentially an agricultural country, is not confined exclusively to the production of one article. Wheat, oats, barley, flax, and in fact, nearly all cereals such as are grown in Great Britain are capable of being produced in large quantities; and of excellent quality. Horses, cattle, sheep and pigs thrive well and are annually kept in increasing numbers. Then Manitoba butter and cheese are renowned throughout Canada for the richness and excellence of their quality wherever care has been taken in the manufacture of the same. Though a large part of the prairie is almost treeless, yet at intervals all over the country, especially along the banks of the rivers and on the hills, "bluffs" and considerable areas of wood are to be met with. These, with the large quantities of timber in the eastern and northern parts of the province have afforded, and will continue to afford, an ample supply for the requirements of the population, as regards fuel and fencing, and to a considerable extent also for building purposes. Coal of good quality is abundant, and on the shores and islands of Lake Winnipeg, iron and other minerals and deposits of salt are found. These are as yet undeveloped. Capital clay for bricks and first-class building stone are also obtained; these various points will, however, be dealt with in greater detail further on. It is sufficient here to point out that the resources of the province are both varied and rich.

The population of the whole Dominion shows an increase during the decade of only 11.52 per cent.; whilst that of Manitoba shows an increase of 148.01 per cent. No other part of the Dominion has made such rapid strides. During the past four years the area of lands under cultivation has been increased more than 100 per cent. During the past ten years the railway mileage has been increased from 275 to 1,575 miles, while the people of the province enjoy the advantage to be derived from having over 200 railway stations and over 600 post offices. Over 550 schools are under the control of and aided by the Government.

The asylum at Selkirk was established some years ago. With an increasing population, more accommodation was found necessary. The erection of another building was recommended by experts, rather than the enlargement of the one then in existence. About the time this need became pressing it was manifested that the establishment of the reformatory for boys at Brandon was premature. In consequence of this, the institution was converted into an asylum for the insane. It need not be imagined from the fact that there are two institutions of this character that there is an excess of this unfortunate class, for exactly the opposite is the case. Statistics show that the proportion of lunatics in Manitoba is less than one-half what it is in Ontario, and that the cases generally are of a milder type.

The numerous agricultural societies throughout the province have been aided considerably with grants from the Provincial Government, and have been doing an admirable work by encouraging competition and a healthy strife among the farmers of the country. They have enabled the farmers to get together, exchange ideas, compare results, and promote their common interests.

Not long since, the Legislature provided the machinery for the establishment of **Farmers' Institutes**, which are proving of incalculable advantage to all engaged in agriculture. These institutes are being formed throughout the province, and meetings are being held during the winter months. At these, papers on live topics are read and then discussed by the members. In this way the experience of all is made available to all.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon was established some three years ago, and is calculated in an eminent degree to meet the requirements of farmers prosecuting their vocation under new conditions. As its name indicates, its great purpose and design is to conduct experiments accurately and scientifically to ascertain definitely the best time for and mode of doing what is to be done on any farm. It may, for instance, be desired to know when is the best time to sow seed, or which variety will prove most satisfactory here. If a number of farmers were obliged to test the matter for themselves, much loss might result—that experimenters would be obliged to meet. The facilities on the farm for making the test are much greater, and consequently more accurate and reliable, while the expense is defrayed by the public at large. The land chosen for the farm is of a most varied character, so that the experiments may be equally varied.

It would be quite impossible here to recite the numerous experiments that are now being made. Reports advising of the work on the farm, and the results attained, are issued from time to time, while the newspapers of the province are constantly publishing reports of the farm operations. Hundreds of visitors each season find the farm a source of great delight and profit. The following table will afford some idea of the character of the work being done, as well as of the productions of the soil.

The yield of some grasses (dry) for the year 1891 is as follows :

Timothy and clover	4,100	lbs. per acre
Alsike and timothy	4,600	" "
Sanfoine clover	3,600	" "
Native grasses mixed under cultivation	5,100	" "
Lucerne clover	3,000	" "
Mixed tame grasses	2,700	" "
Meadow Fescue	2,640	" "

The yield of some fodder plants (dry) for 1891 is as follows :

Oats and tares	10,255	lbs. per acre
Oats and peas	8,837	" "
Barley and peas	6,862	" "
Rye	4,150	" "

The average yield of fodder corn for 1890 from 32 varieties tested was 50,000 lbs. (green) per acre.

These experiments set at rest all questions regarding the cultivation of grasses and fodder plants and the providing for cattle during the winter.

The yield of certain grains and roots for the year 1890 was as follows :

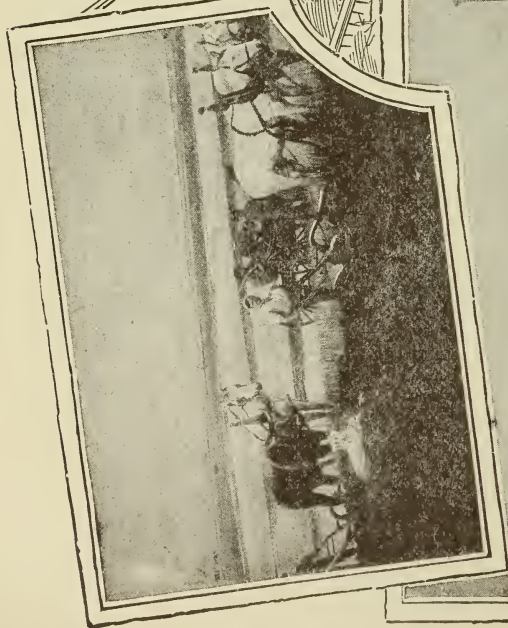
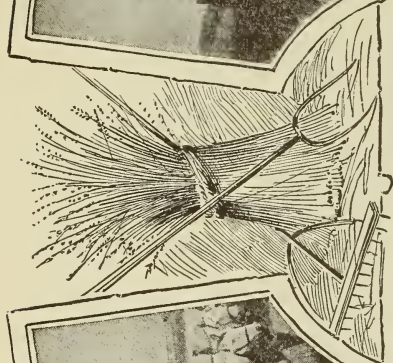
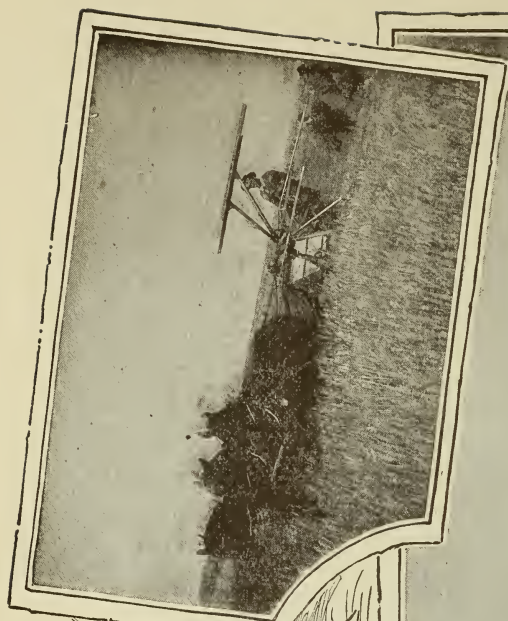
Red Fyfe wheat from 22 to 34 bus. averaging over whole farm per acre 27 bushels.

Black Oats	78 to	88 bushels per acre.
White Oats	51 "	81 "
Barley	40 "	68 "
Turnips	600 "	1,300 "
Potatoes	200 "	700 "
Peas	11 "	24 "

It must be borne in mind that these results are in no way exceptional in character. They are grown on land no better than may be found on almost any other farm in the province. No fertilizers have been used on the land. Any one willing to adopt the same modes of cultivating his land may do so without the slightest difficulty, with the possibility of perhaps getting better results.

Statement of comparative yields based on the returns of acreage and average yields for the respective years of 1890 and 1891.

	1890.	1891.
Estimate average yield in Wheat ..	20.1 Bush.	25.3 Bush.
" " " Oats	41.3 "	48.3 "
" " " Barley...	32.1 "	35.6 "
" " " Potatoes.	235.0 "	130.4 "
" " " produce of Wheat.	14,665.799 "	23,191.595 "
" " " Oats. ...	9,513.433 "	14,762.605 "
" " " Barley... 2,069.415	"	3,179.879 "
" " " Potatoes. 2,540,820	"	2,291.982 "



TYPICAL MANITOBA SCENES

Productions of the Country

Wheat Raising a Distinctive Feature—but Mixed Farming Secures Gratifying Results—Cost of Raising Crops—Live Stock, Dairy Farming, etc.

BEING satisfied regarding the soil, the next item of information required by the prospective settler or investor would naturally have reference to the productions of the country. Up to the present, Manitoba has been chiefly, though not altogether, a grain producing country. To-day it is becoming more essentially a region where mixed farming is practised.

Wheat, oats, barley, peas, roots and vegetables, and indeed, nearly all cereals and roots produced in the East are also successfully grown in Manitoba. The same may be said of live stock; horses, cattle, sheep and pigs being kept in large and increasing numbers, and thriving wonderfully.

It is not unusual in the Eastern Provinces to hear doubts expressed as to the agricultural capacity of Manitoba. These doubts arise mainly from ignorance of the true condition of affairs, and not infrequently from the wretched reports sent out by those who failing to succeed in anything in the land they hailed from, have, without previous experience in agriculture, tried their hand at farming in Manitoba and failed in that also.

Wheat raising is Manitoba's distinctive feature. This industry must give her particular prominence in the eyes of all interested in agriculture, or the world's bread supply.

It is a fact well established both scientifically and experimentally that the cultivated plants yield the greatest product near the northernmost limit at which they "will grow." This law seems to be of universal application and is as satisfactorily illustrated with cotton and Indian corn as with wheat. Manitoba's position is favorable in this particular. Another important condition to the successful culture of wheat is the long protracted sunshine during the summer months. Professor G. M. Dawson is authority for the following statement: "In addition to the favorable climatic conditions indicated by the thermometer, the length of day in summer in the northern latitudes favor the rapid and vigorous growth of vegetation, and takes the place to a certain extent of heat in this respect."

Doubtless the luxuriant and rapid growth of vegetation in Manitoba may be accounted for, in part, by the long hours of sunshine which for a part of the year is over sixteen hours per day. With Manitoba's northerly location, her marvellously fertile soil, her long protracted and uninterrupted sunshine and her rain fall, it is not surprising that extraordinary crops of wheat and other grains are grown.

It is safe to say there is not any part of North America where the yield of wheat over a number of years has been so uniformly high as it is in Manitoba. Nearly every season there are many cases where exceptionally good farmers or those having first-class land produce crops yielding from thirty to forty-five bushels per acre. Manitoba wheat, on account of its superior flour producing qualities, is much sought after by millers all over Eastern Canada and in Great Britain. It meets a ready sale at about 6d. to 1s. per bushel higher prices than is paid for most American and English wheats. Red Fyfe wheat is the variety most grown, as it seems to be greatly in favor with the millers, but other varieties, which are said to mature more quickly, are being introduced with success. There are some very large wheat farms in the province, many men having from 300 to 500 acres under crop, and some from 1,000 to 2,000 acres.

COST OF RAISING CROPS.

It is a difficult matter to state accurately, what it costs to raise a bushel of wheat in Manitoba, the conditions frequently being very dissimilar. Calculations have been made, however, which show that a reasonable average can be arrived at.

Mr. George Hutchinson, of Brougham Castle, Penrith, Cumberland, England, one of the British Farmers' delegates sent to Manitoba to report on the question of emigration, made a careful examination, and says :

"At Portage la Prairie I got some interesting figures as to the actual cost of growing wheat on a quarter-section, or 160 acres of land, all the work being let by contract :

Ploughing	\$ 2 00
Seed, 2 bushels at 3s. 4d	1 15
Sowing and harrowing	80
Reaping with binder and stooking	2 00
Stacking and marketing	1 15
Threshing, 2d. per bushel	80
Expense per acre	\$ 8 40
These 160 acres produced 23 bushels per acre, which were sold at 81 cents per bushel, or per acre.....	18 63
Deduct expense per acre	8 40
Balance per acre	\$10 23

THE QUALITY OF MANITOBA WHEAT.

Professor Tanner of the Department of Agriculture, South Kensington, writing as to the quality of Manitoba wheat, publishes the following as the grouped opinions of fourteen of the largest millers in Great Britain and Ireland :

Manitoba Wheat—"This is a most valuable wheat for milling. It recommends itself from a miller's or baker's point of view in all points, a type of the perfect. More desirable wheat than samples of hard fye Canadian for the British miller could not be found. It is simply magnificent. There can be no better quality of wheat used for mixing purposes, both for strength and quality of flour produced, superior even to No. 1 Minnesota wheat. It would prove invaluable to millers of this country where home-grown wheats frequently come to hand in damp condition in consequence of the humidity of the climate. It possesses splendid quality and value for mixing with English wheats ; but can we get a regular supply of it? I am afraid the American millers are too cute to allow this quality to come here in any quantity if they can possibly prevent it. If such wheat can be put on our market at a reasonable price it must meet a ready demand at three or four shillings per quarter over the best Indian red wheats. No doubt it would do for mixing in some districts, but I would most certainly grind it alone, and it would make flour of the finest quality. Could we get such quality regularly, we should have no fear of any American competition in the point of quality of flour. It is just what we want and what we cannot buy. The value and quality of Manitoba wheat lies in the fact that it is grown on almost virgin soil. Makers of the best flour are, or should be, anxious as far as they can to get their supplies of wheat that they depend on for strength from those parts of the north-west of America where wheat is a new crop to the land. No. 1 Duluth is not in any way fit to compare with the best Manitoba wheat, especially not in its working qualities. It is certainly as beautiful wheat as I ever saw, and particularly well adapted for millers in this country. Surely some agency can be devised for getting more easy access to these hard wheats which are never seen in commerce in purity. If the English miller could only get a good supply of such wheat at a moderate price, fine Hungarian flour would stand little chance in this country."

What is true of the quality of wheat is to a great extent true also of oats and barley, of which large quantities are raised. Oats do remarkably well, and, in a good season it is nothing uncommon to pass by large fields where the straw is standing from five to six feet high and which yields sixty-five or seventy-five bushels per acre. At present considerable attention is being directed to the growth of two-rowed barley suitable for English malting purposes.

In the production of roots and vegetables Manitoba has few equals and probably no superior. Eastern Canadians, who themselves come from a good root and vegetable country, are simply astonished at the productions of Manitoba in these lines.

LIVE STOCK

Horses and Cattle thrive remarkably well on the prairie farms of Manitoba, and in proportion to the numbers kept there is probably more high class stock than in any other part of Canada. According to the July, 1891, bulletin of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, there are in the province 2,262 stallions; this shows a remarkable increase upon former years, and indicates that Manitoba farmers are themselves going largely into horse breeding. Some of the most valuable stallions in Canada are to be found in Manitoba, having been imported direct from Europe. Cattle in increasing numbers are to be met with all over the prairie. There are some notable breeds of thoroughbred Shorthorns, Herefords and Galloways. During the past two years, but especially in 1891, large numbers of cattle have been shipped from Manitoba to Great Britain, some as "stockers" for finishing off on the farms and in the stables of Old Country farmers, and others as fat cattle. This trade is an increasing one. Usually cattle are fed on the wild prairie hay, which in most parts grows in great abundance. In such parts the settlers in a given district not infrequently put their cattle together in a herd, hiring a boy to look after them and see that they not only get grass and water, but that they are kept out of the standing crops, and at night are brought safely home. The quality of beef produced is the best, and under the circumstances the cost of production is reduced to a minimum. Not infrequently an animal whose total cost did not exceed more than a few dollars, realizes from \$30 to \$50. It is generally acknowledged that both cattle and horses prefer and thrive better on wild prairie grass than on cultivated varieties.

It is so easy to obtain an ample supply of hay for the mere trouble of curing the wild grass, that Manitoba farmers have not done much in the way of cultivation but at the Experimental farm at Brandon very useful work is being done in this connection. Manager S. A. Bedford states that sixty grasses and clovers are being tested. As the farm was only established in 1888 it is too early to express a decided opinion with regard to many of these varieties, but enough has been learned to establish the fact that Manitoba will always have a most bountiful supply of grass. In certain parts of the country where there is a considerable quantity of wood, cattle, and sometimes horses are kept out of doors all the winter; but on most Manitoba farms they are stabled from about the middle or end of November to the middle or end of March. Most days the cattle are turned out and allowed to run round the buildings and in the yard and "rustle" round the straw stacks.

Sheep.—It has been found that this province is especially adapted to the rearing of sheep. In some parts of the province men have gone into sheep ranching on a large scale, and have found it very remunerative.

Pigs.—The raising of pigs in Manitoba has not received that attention which its importance and profits demands. Last summer one of the leading provincial papers offered a prize for the best essay on "The Profits of Hog Raising in Manitoba and the North West." The prize was awarded to Mr. Henry Newmarch of Strathewan, Manitoba, who says "An ordinary Berkshire grade of pig six weeks old can be bought almost anywhere in Manitoba for \$2; commoner pigs in proportion. At six months old, if these pigs have been well fed, cleanly kept and are fairly well bred, they should dress 140 lbs. each. Now estimate the cost of this 140 lbs. Pigs at six weeks old weigh twenty pounds, costing \$2; four and one half months to make 120 lbs. increase, will eat an average of three and one half pounds of food for each pound gained, or 420 lbs., in all costing usually about seventy cents a 100 lbs., or \$3.15; cost of killing and hauling to market, say fifty cents, or in all \$5.65. The average price of pork at that season of the year, viz., October, is eight cents, which, for 140 lbs. would bring \$11.50, leaving the profit of \$5.55 for each pig for the summer, which ought to satisfy even the most exacting for their labor and skim-milk."

There is very little doubt each year will see a larger number of pigs kept in the province. As farmers become more firmly established and get better buildings around them, they will pay more attention, not only to keeping pigs, but to poultry, which do remarkably well, and to many of the other etcetras (or what in a new country have too often been treated as such) of a prosperous mixed farm. Both animal and vegetable life in Manitoba enjoys a singular exemption from diseases, and from those enemies of the breeder and farmer that rob the latter of so large a proportion of the reward.

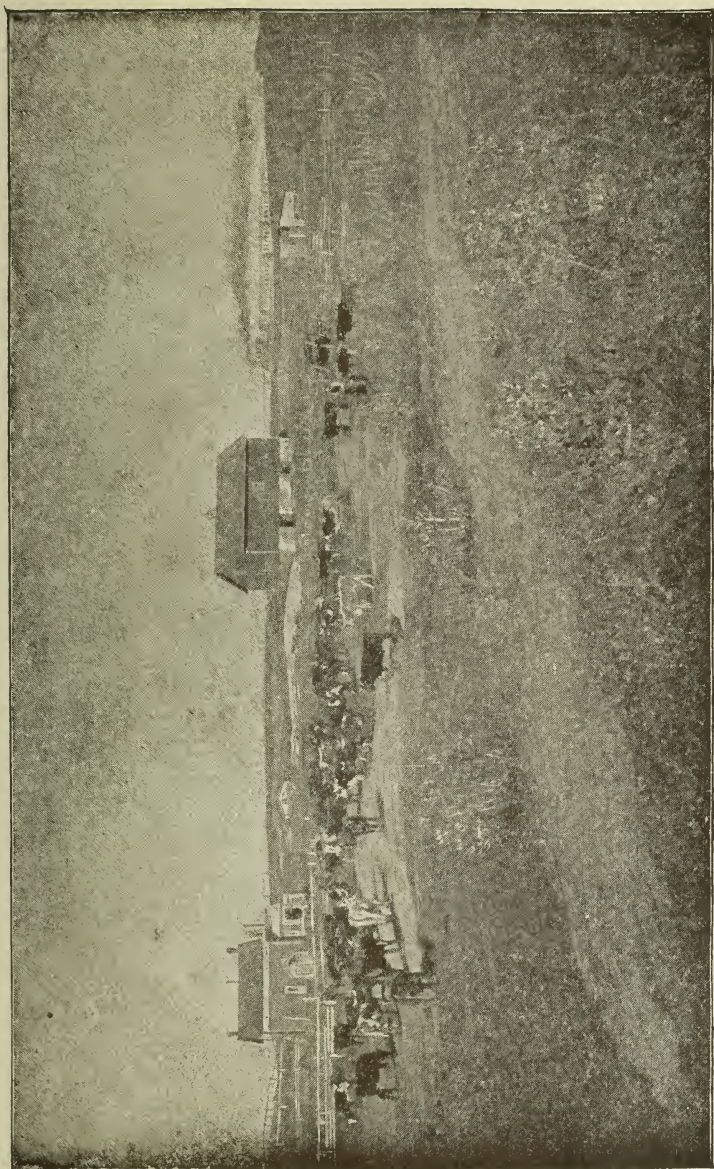
Dairy Farming is constantly engaging an increasing amount of intelligent interest. In most parts the pasturage is of a superior quality and the supply of good water is ample, fulfilling most of the conditions for profitable cheese and butter making. Already a limited number of creameries and cheese factories have demonstrated the profit that may be derived from these enterprises. The government, the agricultural societies and the farmers' institutes are in various ways promoting these industries. Each year will doubtless witness more extensive operations in these departments, as those who have considered their value and have made practical tests are fully satisfied of their remunerative character. The market for these commodities is practically limited and good prices are assured.

The special correspondent of the *London Times*, who travelled through Canada several years since, writing to that paper about Manitoba, says :

"The products of the province are of the widest range. In food, the people no longer need outside supplies, but grow all their own meats, vegetables and fruits, with large quantities to spare for shipment to less favored neighbors. The tall elevators that stand up at frequent intervals along the railway routes tell of the wheat this rich valley produces to send to all parts of the world. Train loads of cattle and hogs raised on these prairies are sent eastward to Canada. The dairy interest is becoming so large that several towns are extensive exporters of butter and cheese. Manufacturing establishments are springing up, and, taken all together, this prolific province seems, after the railway journey round the rock-bound coast of Lake Superior and the sterility on the height of land between its affluence and the Red River, to be literally the Promised Land for the Canadians."

Game.—Manitoba is a veritable sportsman's Paradise, for, in addition to the various kinds of fish, the sportsman can find elk, moose and deer at points not far removed from Winnipeg. Then in the settled parts of the country and around nearly every town and village he may find almost unlimited quantity of prairie chicken, wild ducks and geese, wild turkeys, foxes and prairie wolves, some badgers and martens, skunks, etc., etc. Perhaps when the sportsman finishes up by skunk hunting, he will conclude the variety is sufficient.





A FARM IN NORTH-WESTERN MANITOBA

Important Matters Solved

Plenty of Wood and Coal—Water Abundant—And the Climate all that can be Desired.

FUEL



THE fuel question has been satisfactorily solved. While as yet no difficulty has been experienced in regard to this, the visible supply was by no means inexhaustible. The opinion that has for some time prevailed that there were enormous coal deposits here has been fully verified. It is now known that there are vast coal areas within and contiguous to the province of such extent as to be practically inexhaustible. It has been discovered that between Red River and the Rocky Mountains there are some 65,000 square miles of coal bearing strata. This coal is without doubt good for domestic purposes, and is believed to be equally so for steam and manufacturing purposes.

The Legislature has effected an arrangement by which this coal is to be supplied at from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per ton, according to locality. With the extraordinary transportation facilities possessed here, controlled and regulated as far as possible by the Legislature, and with enormous deposits of excellent coal, easily and inexpensively available, Manitoba enjoys most exceptional advantages, assuring an ample and cheap supply to all her inhabitants.

WATER SUPPLY

It may be proper to observe that the water supply of the province is abundant. In addition to the numerous larger and smaller rivers and creeks, there are generously distributed many lakes of varying dimensions, from the size of Lake Winnipeg down to small ponds, all of which almost without exception are fit for animal and domestic use. Not infrequently bubbling springs of the purest and most wholesome water afford an ample supply. Pumps are used winter and summer with as little difficulty as elsewhere.

Water is found in most parts of the province with comparatively little trouble. There are, of course, some few points where difficulty has been experienced in obtaining good water without sinking a great depth for it, but that is the case in all countries. As a rule it is easily obtained in Manitoba at a very shallow depth—very often not more than twelve or fifteen feet.

CLIMATE

Perhaps, upon no one point is Manitoba so misunderstood as in regard to its climate. The idea has largely prevailed in the East that it is a frozen wilderness, the fit abode only of Indians and wild animals. No opinion could be more incorrect than this. The climate is cold in winter and warm in summer. But as the atmosphere is wonderfully dry and bracing, neither the cold nor the heat is felt as they otherwise would be. For instance, 10° or 20° below zero in a humid atmosphere would be simply unendurable; in Manitoba it is pleasant. On such days as these with their wealth of bright sunshine, the streets are fairly alive with the youth and beauty of the land. Sleigh bells are jingling everywhere, and all seem on pleasure bent. In the country districts the winter is the great time for social enjoyment. The work of the day over, about five or six o'clock the farmers get out their sleighs and drive over to a neighbor's house to spend the evening with a number of friends, or perhaps there is a debating society, or a church social, or a dance in the settlement. The winter is thoroughly enjoyed by the residents.

Winter Work.—It must not however be supposed that pleasure monopolizes this season of the year. On the farm a good deal of work has to be done. The stock must be attended to, the grain hauled to market, and a supply of fuel laid in. A good deal of building is done during the winter months, and it is generally found that when the end is drawing near the settler finds he could do with another week or two of it to enable him to get ready for the spring. At any rate, he not infrequently says so.

The seasons vary a little, but as a rule the winter may be expected to set in about the middle or end of November, and continue to the middle or end of March. During that time there are but few changes. Fog, rain, sleet and thaw are practically unknown. Usually the sky is clear and there is bright sunshine. The snow fall is but slight, averaging only about from 12 to 18 inches on the prairie.

Spring.—Spring commences about the end of March. The snow then melts, the frost goes out of the ground, and during the month of April seeding is general. No time should now be lost by the farmer, for as a rule the man who gets the spring work started and finished in good time will be likely to obtain the best results in autumn. Seeding is, or should be, pretty well finished by the first week in May and then summer quickly arrives.

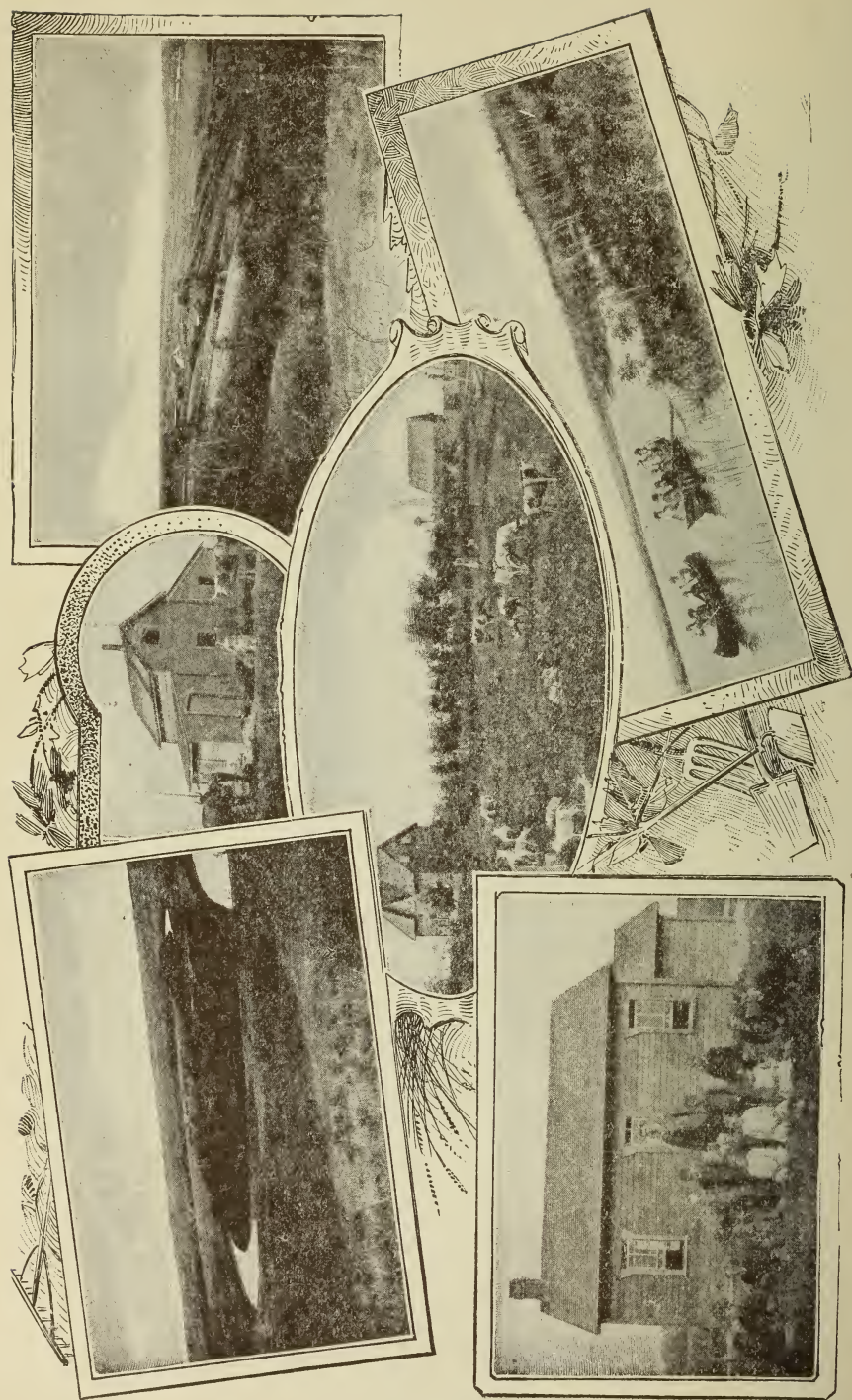
Summer and its Work.—When the farmer has finished seeding, he can find employment for himself and horses for six weeks—till, say the end of June, “breaking” the virgin prairie soil. In the case of new arrivals who have no crop to put in, breaking can of course be commenced when the farmers begin seeding, or very soon after. “Breaking” means ploughing up the prairie sod for the first time. This is usually done about two inches deep. After it has lain about two months the sod becomes decomposed and is then ready for “back-setting” or ploughing over again. This time the ploughing is usually four or five inches deep, so that in addition to the old sod two or three inches of loose soil is turned up and the land is then ready for seed the next spring. This “back-setting” is generally done either just before harvest time or just after. Haymaking commences about the middle of June and is continued until harvest time, about the middle of August.

Autumn.—The autumn season is now approaching; some three months of delightful weather may be anticipated. The days are neither excessively hot nor unpleasantly cold. Towards the latter part of the time and just before winter sets in, the glorious Indian summer with its hazy atmosphere, warm, sunshiny days, and cold nights spreads its mantle of peace over the land.

In Manitoba these three months are the busiest and most important of the whole year. The grain has to be cut and stacked and the land ploughed up again for seeding next spring. In August the click of the self-binding harvester is to be heard everywhere. In September thousands of grain stacks are dotted all over the prairie; and a grand sight it is to drive for hundreds of miles and see these countless pyramids of grain, testifying at once to the beneficence of Providence, the industry of man, the richness of the soil, and salubrity of the climate.

In October and November, grain is largely threshed out, and during the winter months it is sold and delivered in the nearest market. Such is a brief epitome of the climate, and the principal branches of agricultural work calling for attention at the various seasons of the year.

The climate of Manitoba is, without doubt, one of the healthiest in the world and it is remarkable that, notwithstanding the exaggerated ideas current in the East regarding it, the residents are almost unanimous in preferring it to that of the country from which they have come.



TYPICAL MANITOBA SCENES

Social Life

A Question of Great Importance Satisfactorily Answered.



UCH has been written in this book about the money making aspect in the West, about the climate, the soil, the products of the country, etc., but to the man or the woman who has been brought up in an old established and thickly settled country, one other consideration of transcendent importance suggests itself, especially to intending settlers with families. The question so frequently asked is as to the social condition. What kind of people shall I meet there? Are they kind hearted? . Will they help me on

arrival; or give me the cold shoulder, and laugh at my ignorance? Will the society be congenial? Shall I ever be able to go to church or school, or concert or meeting; or to have social gatherings at home? Are there towns there, with shops and streets, etc., etc.? All such questions as these, and many much more extraordinary are asked daily by those who think of going to Canada.

If only the truth were known, much needless anxiety might be avoided on this subject. The newly arrived settler will find in Manitoba a warm hearted, hospitable people ready to receive and help him, provided he is honestly anxious to improve his circumstances in life. It is nothing uncommon to meet in one prairie home at a social gathering the representative of the old blue-blooded British aristocracy, the professional man, the trader, the farmer, and the laborer. It seems to be recognized that "A man is a man if he's ready to toil." The classes who in the older countries "Toil not neither do they spin," in Manitoba dig and plough and build and are not ashamed of that fact. In the truest sense of the expression "All men are equal," for all men are there to make a living and improve their position in life.

Though amongst settlers who arrive with, but little means there are poor people, yet poverty is almost unknown. Of poorhouses there are none. The whole province is divided into three districts for judicial purposes, in each of which is a court house and gaol. It not infrequently happens that in one or other of these gaols not a single prisoner is confined. From this it will be rightly inferred that life and property are as safe and as well protected here as anywhere, while the hardships or difficulties, if any, will be limited to such as may naturally arise in beginning, and in conditions inseparable from sparseness of settlement. There are churches in connection with nearly all denominations; there are schools, banks, hotels, clubs and societies of all kinds. There is gas and electric light. There are trains and busses and tram cars. If inclined for sport, there is excellent shooting, and in some parts fox hunting upon the orthodox plan, is indulged in. If living in the country, there are in most parts good roads to travel on to market. Though the postman will not come around and deliver the letters every day, there are few places where there is not a mail twice a week, and in most places there is a daily mail. The letters have to be called for at the post office.

The feeling is very general that the man who lives by agriculture in the west has a very hard time of it. The fact is, owing to the introduction of machinery and the great extent to which it is used, the Manitoba farmer does not endure as much heavy physical toil as does his less favored brother in the east. Except in regard to some of these luxuries which are the outcome, not merely of a highly developed civilization, but of centuries of settlement; life in Manitoba is pretty much what it is in the older provinces, only that it is rendered more tolerable by the less irksome social restriction imposed by society.

AN ADVANCED CIVILIZATION

Manitoba to-day, though young, enjoys all the concomitants of advanced civilization. Her postal service is quite complete for so new a country, and is being rapidly improved. Telegraph lines are being established throughout the province and are being constantly extended. Four different railway systems with their branches splendidly equipped, afford transportation facilities of an exceptional character. In the cities and towns gas and electricity supply light and motive power, and so the catalogue might be extended. The people of the province have in their educational, religious and philanthropic institutions, given incontestable evidences of their advanced ideas, their generosity, and public spiritedness, while the authorities have been granting liberal aid when warranted in so doing, by establishing and fostering agricultural societies, farmers' institutes, an experimental farm, insane asylum, an institution for the deaf and dumb, a home for incurables, and other similar institutions.

All the leading denominations are well represented. Many of them own fine church edifices with comfortable residences for their ministers. Whether from conviction or habit, the people of the country are careful in their attendance upon Divine service, and in their support of the church of their choice. Sunday schools are greatly esteemed and liberally sustained. In sparsely settled neighborhoods denominationalism is forgotten and all join to establish and maintain a union Sunday school. A decided preference is thus expressed for order, Sunday school observance, and the careful training of the young against the violence and disregard of order and the Sabbath, that are too conspicuous in many new communities.

EDUCATION

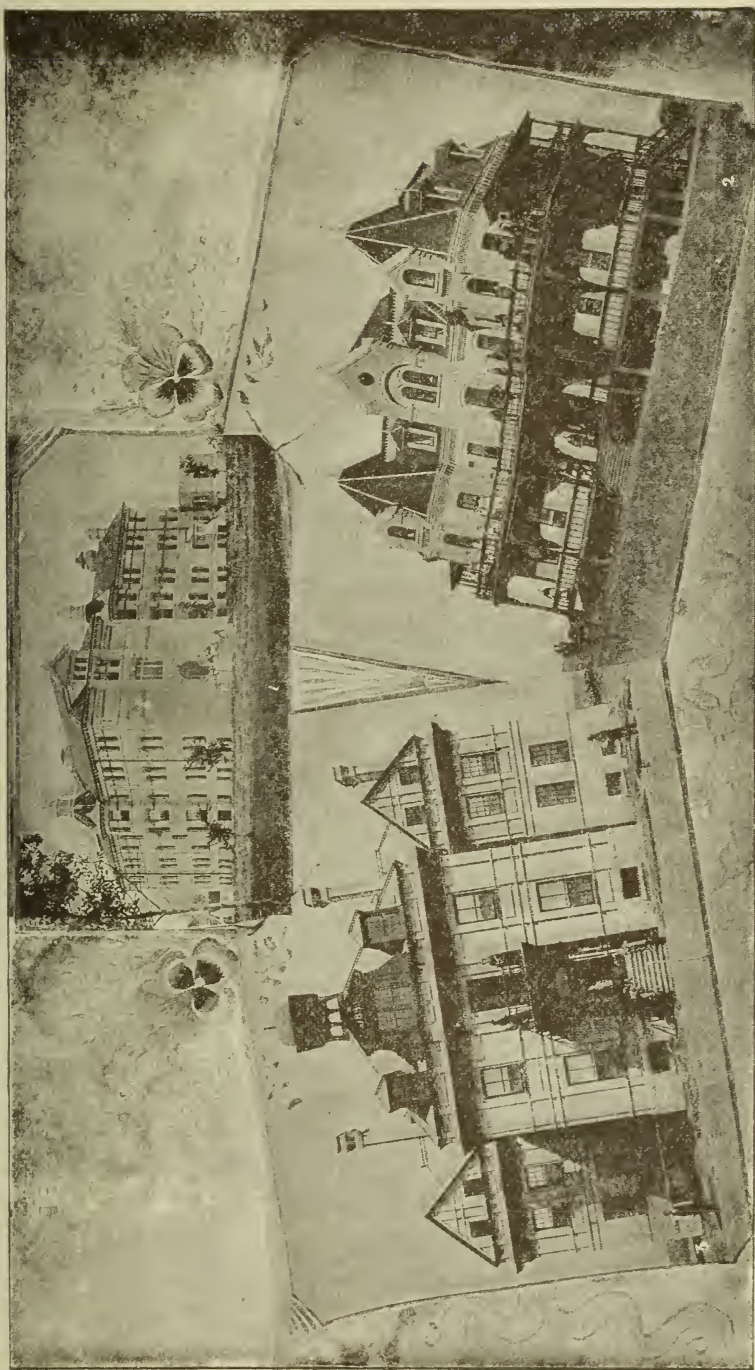
The Educational System of Manitoba is inferior to none. There is a Provincial University liberally endowed with which some five colleges are affiliated. These colleges, except the medical, are under the control of different religious denominations. High schools form the connecting link between the public schools and the colleges.

The public schools are national in character, recognizing no class or distinction of any kind. They are free and of a high standard, embracing as the system does the most approved features to be found in other old and new world systems. It is regarded by educationists as one of the most complete now extant. Public schools are established upon the request of the people as soon as the necessities of the latter demand them. The cost of maintenance is partly provided by the revenues derived from the lands set apart for public school purposes. No less than one eighteenth of the lands of the province have been thus set apart. The Provincial Government also makes an annual appropriation of about one fourth of the entire revenue for the same purpose. The balance of the cost is divided between the School District and the Municipality. In this way the cost is so distributed as not to create a burden on any. The standard for teachers is high and insisted upon. It will thus be seen that the educational needs of the people are well looked after.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

All the buildings necessary for the due administration of justice are provided. In addition to these, there have been erected and fully equipped, a Deaf and Dumb Institute at Winnipeg, a home for incurables at Portage La Prairie, an asylum for the insane at Selkirk and a second asylum for the insane at Brandon. The institute at Winnipeg has now been in successful operation for some three years and is doing most efficient work. The number of deaf and dumb in the province is not large but there was a general demand that their misfortunes should be mitigated as far as possible. Those unable to defray the cost of their education are maintained at public expense.

The institution at Portage La Prairie provides a comfortable home for seventy-five who may be afflicted with diseases not contagious and are inclined to seek its friendly shelter. The government defrays all expenses though those able to pay their way are expected to do so.



MANITOBA'S PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

HOME FOR INCURABLES, PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

ASYLUM AT SELKIRK

ASYLUM AT BRANDON

Will Sustain Millions

Room for Hundreds of Thousands to Repeat the Experience of Successful Ones.

THE extent of the boundaries of Manitoba is ample to sustain a population of millions. There is room for hundreds of thousands more to repeat the experience of those who have satisfied themselves that farming in Manitoba is a remunerative occupation. It will be observed that the reason why this is so are, among others, the following :

First.—The land is easily cultivated. There is no clearing of forests, no removing of stumps and roots, no need of irrigation. Almost no stones to interfere with working the land. After the land is once broken and backset, little or no difficulty is experienced in its cultivation, which means a minimum of cost.

Second.—The land is specially suited for the use of machinery ; sulky ploughs, seeders, binders, and all labor-saving machinery can be used with the fewest possible hindrances.

Third.—Fertilizing the land is not necessary, doubtless in time this may be resorted to profitably.

Fourth.—A large yield is almost certain. Observation establishes the fact that the further North grain is grown the larger is the yield. While further South it is usual to find two grains in each cluster forming the row, in Manitoba three, and often more, well formed grains are usually found in each cluster.

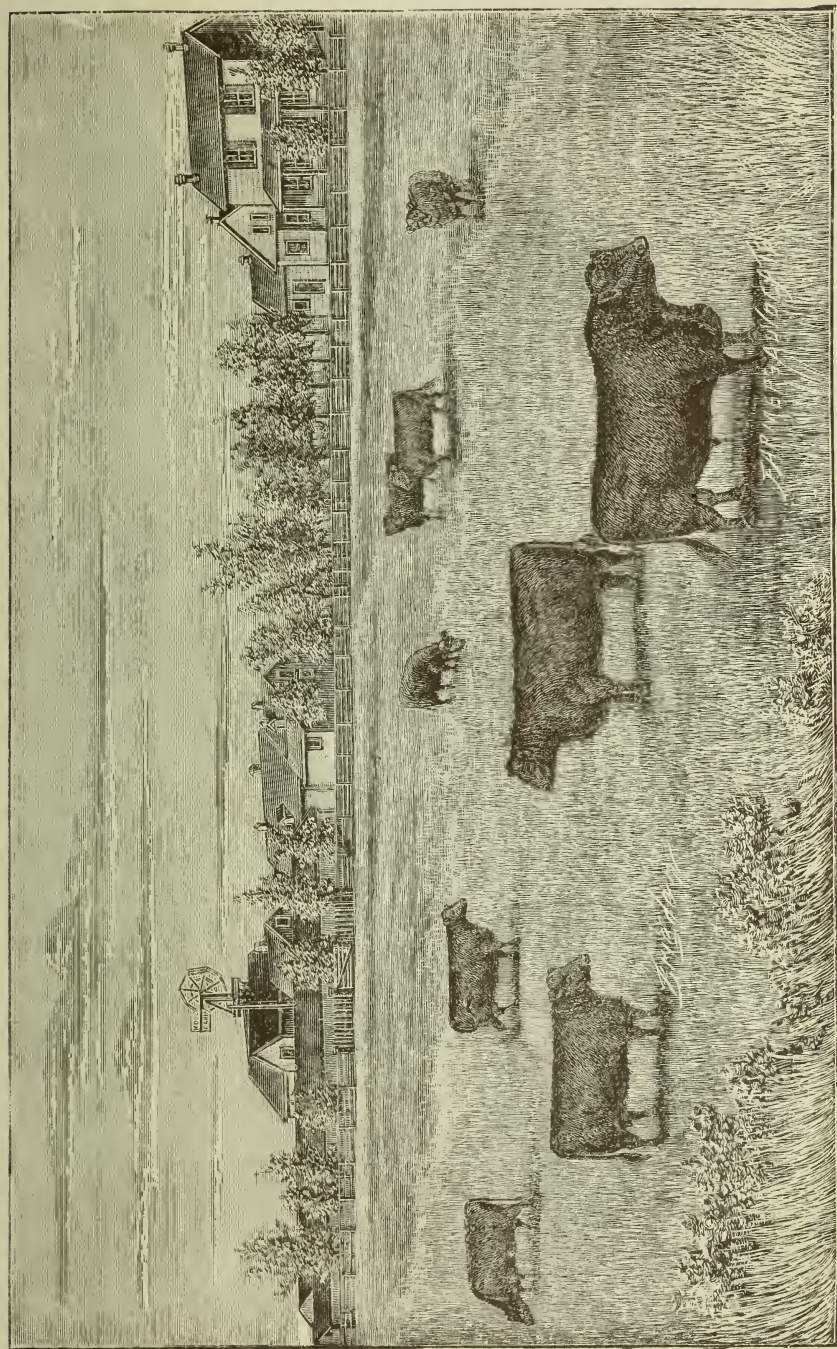
Fifth.—A very superior sample, and correspondingly valuable sample, is most generally secured. It often weighs sixty-five pounds to the bushel. Manitoba wheat uniformly commands the highest price in the markets on account of its vastly superior flour-forming properties.

Sixth.—The beautiful dry weather that usually prevails during harvest time and throughout the fall enables the farmer to harvest, cure, and thresh his grain with the least amount of handling and expense. No one thinks of putting his unthreshed grain in a barn. Specially careful farmers stack their grain, while many thresh it out of the stook and store it in granaries or elevators. The reader must remember that these statements are not made as theories or prophecies, but on the actual experience of thousands, who in the course of a series of years have tested their perfect accuracy.

MANUFACTURES

While agriculture is and will likely continue to be the leading and most important industry of the country, manufacturing interests are by no means neglected. Certainly, with an increasing population and corresponding needs, these will continually become greater in number and importance. Already there are in the country flour mills, saw mills, planing mills, sash, door and blind factories, woollen mills (for the manufacture of yarns, cloths, blankets, etc.), oil mills, brick yards, paper mills, machine shops, wagon and carriage shops, cooper shops, etc.

It will be readily inferred that where so many different lines are now operated successfully, there is a very large field for these and other manufacturers as the country develops. Mineral deposits of different kinds await development. The coal and iron deposits are, without doubt, extensive and valuable. Coal oil also has been discovered, while there are extensive and most valuable deposits of clay, suitable for the manufacture of bricks, terra cotta, etc.



WM. MARTIN'S FARM, ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

Railroads and Markets

Railway Extension a Marked Feature—Markets at every Railway Station—Grain is never a drug on the Market.

RAILWAYS now-a-days are a prime essential to a good grain market. The several systems of railways operating within the Province of Manitoba, at the present time supply a service that is really excellent. When the branches now projected are in full working order, scarcely any portion of the province really needing a railway will be without one. Competition between the different lines is relied upon to procure improved rates from time to time. The following table shows the present mileage:

Main line C.P.R.....	300
Pembina Mountain branch C.P.R.....	202
Southern and Canadian branch	144
Emerson branch C.P.R.....	66
West Selkirk branch C.P.R.....	23
Stonewall	20
Brandon and Souris Coal Field branch	92
Manitoba and Northwestern.....	279
Saskatchewan and Western.....	15
Shell River branch	11
Red River Valley N. P. and M	65
Portage Extension N. P. and M.....	50
Brandon and Morris branch N. P. & M	145
North West Central.....	50
Hudson Bay (not yet equipped)	40

By glancing at a map of the province it will be seen that the roads have been fairly distributed, and no doubt need be entertained that railroads will be extended and built as they may be required.

In 1881 there were about	275 miles of railway.
" 1891 " are	1,375 " "

Increase in ten years 1,100 " "

In 1879 there was no railway at all in the whole country between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains.

In addition to the railroads mentioned above, others are projected; among these are the Winnipeg and Duluth Railroad, intended to connect by an air line, Winnipeg and Duluth (a United States port on Lake Superior), and the Winnipeg and Hudson Bay Railway, which it is proposed to build to Hudson Bay, a distance of about 700 miles.

The extension of railways during the last three or four years has been one of the most strongly marked features of Manitoba's progress, and this development is truly marvellous.

Markets.—It is almost a truism to say of this country that wherever there are railways, there are markets; for at nearly all railroad stations there are grain buyers and elevators, or facilities for loading and unloading grain, and there is also the nucleus of a small village, so that the farmer not only gets cash for his grain, but is able at the same time and place to put up, if necessary, at the adjacent hotel and refresh both himself and his team, and at the shops near by obtain the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Demand for grain.—Grain is not a drug on the market as many in the Old Country suppose it to be. On the contrary, owing to the superior quality, there is usually quite a lively scramble on the part of buyers to obtain good grain. It is sold upon a different system to that prevailing in England. Suppose the farmer

lives near Brandon—and what is true of Brandon is true in degree of other points—he will start out with his load of grain, fifty to sixty bushels, and drive to town, not with the heavy wagon engineered by four horses and two men, such as may often be seen in England, but with a light wagon and two horses, enabling him to complete the journey in a short time.

When he arrives at the market he will probably find ten or a dozen grain buyers on the street ready to look at his wheat and make a bid. He, of course, accepts the best offer, and drives his grain to the elevator where it is dumped into the bin and weighed. From the man in charge he receives his certificate as to weight and quantity, and proceeding to the bank obtains the cash. It is entirely a cash transaction. At the time of writing good wheat is worth 3s. 3d. per bushel, with a prospect of being considerably higher. The farmer who has 5,000 to 6,000 bushels, as many have, can afford to look the world in the face with a feeling of content and independence to which farmers in European countries are unfortunately strangers.

What is stated of wheat is to a large extent true of other kinds of produce, oats, barley, flax, cheese, butter, roots, vegetables, etc., only that in the case of the three last named there is more liable to be a temporary glut in the market, which may have the effect for a short time of reducing prices. As the years go on there is less likelihood of this as transportation facilities are improved, and outside markets are being established. The price of grain when bought and sold on a large scale by dealers to one another or to millers, is usually determined by grade. These standards are fixed annually by a Board of grain examiners who derive their authority from the Government. A Government grain examiner is appointed who determines the grade of each lot submitted to him for inspection.

Up to the present, the great bulk of the surplus wheat of Manitoba has been sold to millers in Eastern Canada, who use it for improving the grades of their flour. Some little has for several years past been shipped to England and Scotland, and this year is likely to see the amount thus disposed of considerably increased. Should the present rate of progress be maintained, Manitoba will, within five years, be able to supply Great Britain with thirty to fifty million bushels of wheat, in quality equal to any, and superior to most the world produces.

PRODUCT OF CROPS

The figures given below show the product of the principal cereal crops in Manitoba in 1891 to be 41,152,080 bushels. As these figures represent the operations of less than 20,000 farmers, some idea can be formed of what the ultimate result must be when the millions of acres yet untouched are brought under cultivation.

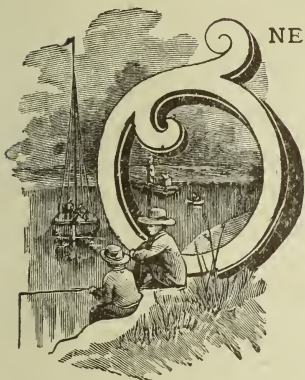
DISTRICT	WHEAT		OATS		BARLEY	
	Acres	Bushels	Acres	Bushels	Acres	Bushels
Northwestern.....	53,639	1,357,067	38,005	1,835,641	13,106	466,573
Central.....	157,219	3,977,641	41,870	2,022,321	7,998	284,729
Southwestern.....	202,733	5,129,145	57,949	2,798,937	11,190	398,364
South Central.....	189,222	4,787,316	60,889	2,940,939	23,686	843,221
North Central.....	178,796	4,523,539	51,292	2,525,793	17,059	607,301
Eastern.....	135,955	3,416,891	54,036	2,639,064	16,789	597,688
	916,664	23,191,599	305,644	14,762,605	89,828	3,197,876



A COMFORTABLE HOME ON THE SOURIS RIVER

Soil

Opinions of Experts—Land of High Fertility— Easily Obtained.



NE of the first questions a practical man will ask is this: "What kind of soil is there in Manitoba?" The answer to this question can only be in general terms, as whilst land may be good in one district, in another it may be indifferent. Speaking generally, the surface of the country is a rolling prairie, largely divested of trees, and in the majority of cases largely covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, which, renewed year by year, has for centuries fed the vast herds of buffalo—millions in number—that roamed over its surface. This land is ready for the plough.

The soil is in many cases a rich black loam, resting upon a clay sub-soil. It has within recent years been analysed by some of the world's greatest chemists, and examined by many of the leading men of the Old Country. Within the last four or five years Manitoba has been visited by a large number of influential men who, at various times, and in their own ways, have stated their opinions as to the soil of this part of the world.

Professor Tanner, of the Department of Agriculture, South Kensington, one of the best known scientific agriculturists in Great Britain, writing on this subject, says:

"The soil of Manitoba differs very greatly in different parts, for we must not forget that we are speaking of a tract of country larger than Great Britain and Ireland. No one need be surprised at the fact that we find in Manitoba, soils which are good, bad and indifferent, and yet experience justifies the Indian title it bears as 'The Land of the Great Spirit, or God's Country,' for this is the literal translation of the word 'Manitoba.' One man may truthfully describe the soil of his neighborhood as being most fertile in its character, whilst another man may, with equal truth, describe some land he has discovered as being of little agricultural value. The practical question we have to deal with is this:—Can we find plenty of very good land throughout the province? I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that land of very high fertility may be most easily obtained there by any man who knows his business, and who can tell the difference between good and inferior soils. I am bound even to go beyond this, and state that although we have hitherto considered the black earth of Central Russia (Tchornoi Zem) the richest soil in the world, that land has now to yield its distinguished position to the rich, deep, black soils of Manitoba and the North West Territory. Here it is that 'the champion soils of the world' are to be found, and we may rejoice that they are located within the British Empire."

Professor Fream of the College of Agriculture, Downton, Salisbury, speaking of the country lying between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains, says:

"From the Red River Valley to the foot-hills of the Rockies is one vast fertile plain, the prairie, which for ages has afforded grazing lands to innumerable herds of buffalo which have to a great extent disappeared in the presence of the white man, but whose bones, bleaching on the prairie, may still be seen in great numbers. Red River Valley is occupied by a great lacustrine deposit forty miles wide which extends right through the province of Manitoba from north to south. It presents a flat surface of the most typical prairie land, and is made up of the finest possible silt with a covering of black vegetable soil which works up with great facility into choice agricultural land."

In the year 1884, The British Association met in Canada, and during the trip many of the members visited and examined Manitoba and the Western Prairies. In a speech delivered at Winnipeg on the return journey, by Sir Richard Temple, M. P., that gentleman said:

"Almost everywhere we saw rich soil. Most of us expected we would find tracts of arid waste, or that, if we saw rich soil, it would be largely interspersed with specimens of gravel, rock, and soil not suitable for cultivation; but this idea proved entirely false."

The Right Honorable the Earl of Aberdeen paid a prolonged visit to Canada in 1890, and on Feby. 10th, 1891, giving evidence before the Imperial Colonization Committee in London, said:

"I do not claim to be an expert as to soil, but I was very pleased with what I saw in Manitoba."

The British and Irish Farmers' Delegates who went out to Canada in 1890, were much pleased with the soil, as the following representative reports show. Mr. John Speir of Newton, Glasgow, Scotland, writes thus:

"The fertility of the soil of the Prairie Province, as it is called, can scarcely be surpassed by that of any other country. The greater part of this vast area is underlain by deep beds of a greyish white clay on the top of which are from nine to twenty-four inches of black vegetable mould. In the southern and middle districts of this province, are to be found millions of acres of the finest farming land to be met with anywhere and these same plains produce a quality of wheat which sells in Britain higher than that of any other country."

Mr. Edwards of Ruthin, Wales, says of Manitoba:

"The greater part of this province contains millions of acres of wheat growing land, varying in depth from fifteen inches to five feet of black vegetable mould, and will yield eight or ten crops of wheat in succession without rest or manure."

Major Stevenson, of Londonderry, Ireland, reports

"The soil of Manitoba is of a rich vegetable loam, black in color, and full of organic matter; in some places it is of great depth, and its wealth of plant food cannot easily be exhausted."

Mr. Arthur Daniel, of Dereham Road, Norwich, England, expresses this opinion:

"The soil and products in Manitoba and the North West differ much from those of the older provinces. The soil consists of a dark vegetable loam of great depth and capable of producing grain for many years to come without the application of manure. Here we found the chief crops to be wheat, oats and potatoes. The latter, though only grown in small quantities, are very fine and of good quality."

Further remark regarding the soil is unnecessary.

SETTLERS IN A POSITION TO PURCHASE.

The most convincing testimony to the character of the Country and the profits resulting from Agriculture is found in the constantly increasing sales of land to resident farmers.

The same report comes from every quarter, scarcely any lands are sold except to residents of the Country. It would be impossible to over-estimate the value of such testimony. After a residence of years in the Country employed in making the most accurate and critical tests, results are so satisfactory that no opportunity to extending and enlarge their operations is neglected.

The farmers of Manitoba are acquiring more land as fast as they can, and in this way is adduced the most satisfying proof that they have found farming highly remunerative. Recently the school lands scattered throughout the Province, which have been left over from former sales, were again offered at public auction. They were sold almost exclusively to our own farmers, and at prices indicating how they were valued. The average price realized was nearly \$8 per acre.

This for wild lands that have been previously picked over and over again shows a very distinct appreciation in values. Of course it will be understood that some lands in very favored localities brought much above the average, while other lands in more remote districts were not sold. The recent reduction in the price of C.P.R. lands was made to stimulate immigration and increase the cultivated areas of the Province. It may be repeated in this connection, though stated elsewhere, that good farming lands may be purchased at from \$2.00 per acre.

Those possessed of limited means will, in beginning, likely be satisfied with a quarter section of land, and with a modest outfit.

Others, however, who have larger resources and desire to make investments in remunerative enterprises, should understand that if wisely made and prudently managed, few, if any, will be found to be more desirable than those made in farming operations here.

It ought to be understood that nothing except the extraordinary resources of the country can make up for a lack of intelligent experience and prudent management.

The land should be carefully selected with reference to intended operations. If it is designed to carry on mixed farming, good wheat lands should be secured where there is plenty of pasturage and good hay.

If wheat growing is the chief object, a tract of land suitable though convenient to a shipping point should be secured.

For successful cattle, horse or sheep raising, lands of a different character will be selected. The quantity of land to be secured will, of course, depend upon the capital for investment and the extent of the intended operations.

Land Laws and Survey System



IN an agricultural country such as Manitoba, amongst matters of first importance to the prospective settler and investor, are the laws affecting the administration, sale and survey of land. The whole country is divided into townships, that is, a tract of country six miles square.

The following diagram shows the manner in which the country is surveyed. It represents a township, that is, a tract of land six miles square, containing thirty-six sections of one square mile each. These sections are divided into quarter sections of 160 acres each.

TOWNSHIP DIAGRAM

640 ACRES. N.

31...	32...	33...	34...	35...	36...
30...	29...	28...	27...	26...	25...
19...	20...	21...	22...	23...	24...
18...	17...	16...	15...	14...	13...
7...	8...	9...	10...	11...	12...
6...	5...	4...	3...	2...	1...

W. E.

 S.

Sections 11 and 29 are set apart for school purposes, and are known as School Lands.

Free Homesteads.—In some parts of Manitoba free homesteads of 160 acres each are still obtainable, but these are usually some considerable distance from the railway and from markets.

Mr. H. H. Smith, of Winnipeg, the Chief Commissioner of Dominion Lands, says :

“Free grants of one quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. At the time of making the entry the homesteader must declare under which of the three following provisions he elects to hold his land, and on making application for patent must prove that he has fulfilled the conditions named therein.”

"1. By making entry and within six months thereafter erecting a habitable house and commencing actual residence upon the land, and continuing to reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the three next succeeding years, and doing reasonable cultivation duties during that period. 2. By making entry for the land, cultivating it for three successive years, so that at the end of that period not less than forty acres be under cultivation; residing for at least six months in each year within a radius of two miles of the homestead; erecting a house upon the homestead and residing in it for three months next preceding the application for patent. 3. By making entry, and within six months from the date thereof of commencing the cultivation of the homestead; breaking and preparing for crop within the first year not less than five acres; cropping the said five acres, and breaking and preparing for crop not less than ten acres in addition, and erecting a habitable house thereon before the expiration of the second year, and thereafter residing therein and cultivating the land for at least six months of each of the three years next prior to the date of the application for patent.

"Persons making entry for homesteads on or after September 1st in any year are allowed until June 1st following to perfect their entries by going into actual residence. The only charge for a homestead of 160 acres is the entry fee of \$10. In certain cases forfeited pre-emptions and cancelled homesteads are available for homesteads, but slightly additional fees are demanded from the settlers in each case, and when abandoned pre-emptions are taken up they are required to perform specified conditions of settlement. Full information can be obtained from the local agents. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least twelve months subsequent to date of entry, and has cultivated thirty acres thereof."

Lands may be procured from companies or private individuals in the settled districts, at reasonable prices, and upon easy terms of payment. The price of course varies as to the conditions of sale, but speaking generally, good land may be bought convenient to railways, and markets at from \$3.00 upwards according to location. Throughout the province a very large selection can be made from first-class farming lands, advantageously situated as regards markets, etc., at an average price of about \$5.00 per acre. Some of the Companies give ten years to pay for land; *i. e.*—one-tenth is paid in cash at the time of purchase and the balance in nine annual instalments with interest at 6 per cent. on the unpaid balance. Those who prefer can of course pay cash and obtain a material advantage by so doing.

Under the Torrens system of land transfer and registration the transfer of land is facilitated and rendered at once, inexpensive and secure.

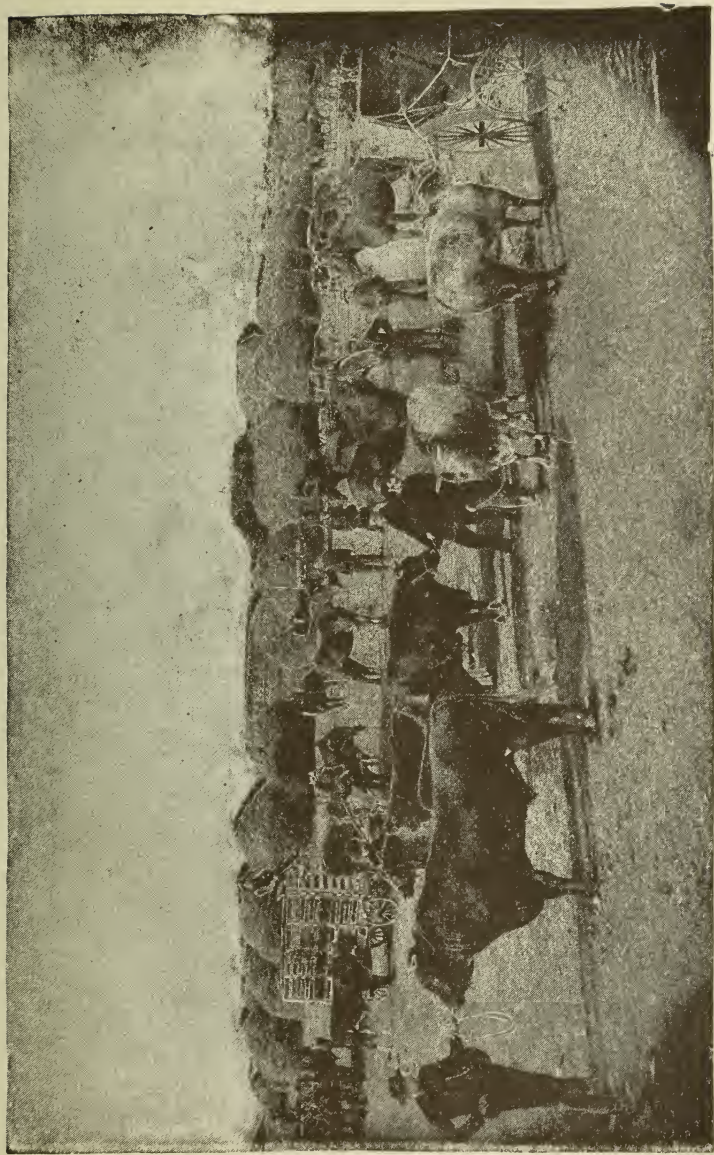
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT, MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

The Legislature of Manitoba is composed of forty members, and speaking in a general way has a jurisdiction and functions similar to those exercised and enjoyed by the Legislatures of the other provinces of the Dominion. Municipal institutions are moulded upon lines that have been found most efficient in the Eastern Provinces, but so modified as to suit the exigencies of the new conditions and surroundings.

It may be remarked that municipal affairs in Manitoba do not require at all the same expenditure or attention that are needed and bestowed east. The natural roads here are far superior to the best macadamized roads that Ontario or Quebec can boast of.

All that is needed to make roads second to none is to throw bridges across the rivers and streams that intersect the country in every direction, to fill occasional depressions and now and again to make a bit of drain to convey off surface waters. As a consequence of nature's kindly provision in these matters, taxation for municipal purposes need never be high unless induced by carelessness.

Some of the municipalities, though in their early infancy, and with all the extraordinary expenses incident to starting in life, rejoice in a balance in their favor at their Banks, in some cases of several thousands of dollars. This affords the most satisfactory evidence that as the assessable value of the property increases the number of tax payers becomes greater and the expenditure becomes less, taxation can scarcely be a matter of apprehension.



STOCK FARM IN MANITOBA

Experiences of Farmers in Manitoba

NAME.	ADDRESS	ARRIVED IN MANITOBA IN	CAPITAL ON ARRIVAL.	FARM.		STOCK.				ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION IN 1891.
				Acres In	Present of	Horses.	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Value
Duncan W. Shaw	Brandon	1880	500	320	10,000	12	1	..	..	\$2,000
Robert Johnson	do	1883	3,000	160	5,000	6	1	..	..	400
I. K. Pelton	do	1889	1,500	320	6,000	9	2	..	7	1,000
Frederick Smith	do	1883	2,000	160	5,000	2	1	..	19	500
John M. Campbell	do	1882	600	320	4,500	7	15	..	11	1,400
Donald S. McKelvie	do	1891	300	320	4,000	8	10	..	6	1,400
David Caffrey	do	1883	25	640	5,000	9	14	..	7	2,500
John J. King	Crystal City	1879	Nil.	340	5,000	7	18	..	5	1,200
Finlay McEwen	do	1879	200	360	4,000	10	9	..	20	1,500
William McKittrick	do	1880	Nil.	640	5,000	12	36	..	8	2,600
James Morrow	Silver Spring	1879	200	340	3,000	5	30	..	10	1,000
D. A. Stewart	Pilot Mound	1879	130	320	2,450	8	10	..	9	1,350
Joseph Wilkinson	Wattsview	1882	100	160	1,500	11	10	..	10	1,100
John Reynolds	Beulah	1881	700	160	2,500	2	42	..	11	1,100
Joseph Brown	Birtle	1879	300	320	2,500	6	20	..	1	900
James Elder	do	1884	3,000	320	7,000	8	3	..	20	1,500
George A. Freeman	Elkhorn	1879	3	320	3,000	5	18	..	8	900
Thos. C. Dohl	do	1882	Nil.	430	5,000	3	13	60	..	600
Richard R. Chew	do	1882	1,000	560	3,000	9	13	..	..	1,400
John Harry	do	1882	Nil.	320	2,500	6	30	..	20	1,450
P. A. S. Milliken	Restan	1880	986	480	4,800	7	11	..	4	1,000
Thomas Bullock	do	1883	4,000	960	8,000	16	25	..	13	2,235

Experiences of Farmers in Manitoba—Continued

NAME.	ADDRESS.	ARRIVED IN MANITOBA IN	CAPITAL ON ARRIVAL.	FARM.		STOCK.					ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION IN 1891.
				Acres in	Present Value of	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Value.	
William Campbell.	Boissevain	1880	500	833	6,340	12	57	.....	10	2,440	200
James McCausland	do	1881	150	320	3,500	6	4	.....	.....	750	200
William Lovel	do	1880	1,000	700	7,000	6	16	.....	.....	1,160	250
W. J. Long	Alcester	1880	2,000	480	7,800	4	6	.....	2	900	200
John L. Hettie	Sheppardville	1883	100	480	2,800	5	5	.....	6	700	100
Peter Hettie	do	1883	1,200	640	3,800	7	18	.....	2	1,050	125
William Smith	Desford	1880	6,000	800	10,000	10	18	.....	1	1,550	300
Richard Cathers	Neepawa	1879	500	320	4,500	5	15	.....	2	7,500	150
William H. West	Blake	1879	500	560	2,000	4	20	.....	.....	1,000	100
Robert Gray	Bellevue	1883	200	800	8,000	9	17	.....	8	1,775	500
William Henderson	Wakopa	1881	1,000	480	5,000	12	18	20	6	1,720	120
Alexander Scott	Heaslip	1881	500	320	4,000	6	14	..	10	1,500	200
John Williams	Melita	1882	50	320	3,000	2	8	.....	1	450	80
Thos. D. Sturgeon	do	1883	3,200	960	9,000	33	16	.....	.....	3,330	400
James M. Sutton	Pomeroy	1882	Nil.	160	1,800	4	.....	.....	.....	500	80
James Godkin	Nelson	1877	200	420	8,200	6	28	.....	6	1,800	310
Thomas Godkin	Morden	1876	Nil.	640	7,000	7	40	.....	4	2,000	300
John Godkin	Craiglea	1880	750	160	2,000	.....	5	.....	1	215	55
Angus Cameron	do	1880	Nil.	240	3,000	2	24	.....	5	800	85
Alexander Card	Glenboro	1882	3,000	960	10,640	22	32	.....	21	3,200	400
John Badger	Grund	1882	10	320	4,000	6	10	.....	4	905	145
Louis Lambert	Joly	1876	4	192	2,000	7	33	37	0	1,370	160
John Hunter	Green Ridge	1875	Nil.	1,000	12,000	16	25	1	0	3,000	365
James Kelley	Arnaud	1876	320	3,000	3,000	11	50	.....	15	3,000	200
Robert Gunn	Dominion City	1875	3,000	640	4,500	13	40	.....	6	3,650	380
Robert Smith	Chater	1879	1,000	1,120	12,000	25	20	.....	14	3,575	457
Hugh B. McMillan	St. Agathe	1877	100	352	3,000	3	50	.....	26	1,000	70
H. A. Cunningham	Hayfield	1881	396	480	8,000	11	10	.....	4	1,600	355
Frank O. Fowler	Wawanesa	1881	1,000	640	12,000	12	30	.....	15	1,800	560
N. G. King	Methven	1881	5,000	320	3,840	4	10	.....	3	1,200	170
Alexander Adams	Cleerspring	1874	500	392	5,000	6	52	.....	7	.....	90

Letters from Settlers

Farming in Manitoba.

IN July, 1891, the Minister of Agriculture and Immigration placed in the hands of the members of the Legislature a number of circulars, for distribution to responsible farmers in their respective constituencies, asking certain questions respecting the success attending their farming operations in Manitoba and also asking them to give their unbiassed opinions of Manitoba as an agricultural country, its climate and general prospects, and also any information which they might consider would be of service to prospective settlers.

The figures in tabulated statement appended and the remarks following are taken from the replies received in answer to the circular above mentioned.

James Godkins, Nelson.—The prospects here, I consider, are good. We have splendid soil and plenty of it with a good climate. I never lost a bushel of grain by frost since I came to the country in 1877.

William Lovel, Boissevain.—This country is equal to any I know of for agricultural purposes outside of England. The climate is good and particularly healthy, and the prospects are all I could wish for. This year's crop I consider will equal those of Great Britain.

D. W. Shaw, Brandon.—As an agricultural country this equals the best in the world. The climate is excellent and the general prospects are of the brightest. To the settler that works, and works intelligently and conscientiously, I believe there is no such word as failure.

Finlay McEwen, Crystal City.—As a grain and stock-raising country Manitoba compares favorably with any other. Its climate cannot be beaten in any country. Land can be bought in this locality at from \$5 to \$10 per acre, and I would say to all, come, as there is plenty of room and you will be welcome.

James Elder, Virden.—The country upon the whole is good, and better, I consider, than Ontario. Its greatest drawback is early fall frosts. The winter is cold, but healthy, and with reasonable forethought can be made quite enjoyable. I would advise intending immigrants to use oxen for the first two seasons unless too far from market, and not to buy a poor farm because it can be got cheap, and not to work any more land than they are able to cultivate properly.

John L. Hettle, Sheppardville.—My opinion of Manitoba is that as an agricultural country it cannot be beaten. The climate is an agreeable one and the general prospects are very promising.

William Smith, Desford.—As an agricultural country Manitoba is the best that I have been in. I have farmed in England, Canada and the United States, and I find that I can get more value here for my labor than in any of the places named.

P. A. S. Milliken, Reston.—As an agricultural country Manitoba is second to none. Its grazing facilities are perfectly wonderful, and if the summer season was a little longer and clear of early fall frosts, the climate would be all that could be desired. Prospective settlers should endeavor to arrive here as early in the spring as possible, as when they arrive later they lose that year's breaking season and thus lose a year in having a crop.

Louis Lambert, Joly.—As far as I am able to judge, Manitoba is the best farming country I ever lived in. I consider the climate very healthy.

Peter Hettle, Sheppardville.—I am well satisfied with Manitoba as a farming country. Its climate is satisfactory and the general prospects are good.

Joseph Brown, Birtle.—Manitoba is an excellent agricultural country, with a climate not too severe, and producing sound health as a rule. Considering the improvement in the condition of all farmers known to me, who live here, I must come to the conclusion that the prospects are good, at least I consider mine so. I would advise prospective settlers to select land suitable for mixed farming, and to choose that part of the country where they can get good pasture for their cattle and at the same time can grow a moderate quantity of grain. Mixed farming should be far the most profitable, and all parts of the Province are not suitable for that.

Richard Cathers, Neepawa.—I consider the country well adapted for agricultural purposes as well as stock raising. The climate, in my opinion, is preferable to that of Eastern Canada, and the prospects are most promising. The only want is more people to fill up the country. I am well satisfied and have only to say to those who are not satisfied with their condition elsewhere, to come and see for themselves.

W. H. West, Sen., Blake.—As an agricultural country Manitoba ranks **A1** with a very healthy climate. The prospects this year are especially bright.

Thomas C. Dahl, Elkhorn.—I have no hesitation in recommending both the country and the climate to those willing to work and believe the prospects of success, for good farming, to be first-class.

R. R. Chew, Elkhorn.—I consider Manitoba a good country for mixed farming. The climate is severe in winter, fine and bracing in summer, and the prospects are good for the industrious settler. I would ask the prospective settler to look out and inspect the land carefully before homesteading or purchasing and see that it is suitable for the purpose intended, whether that be grain growing or mixed farming.

James Harry, Elkhorn.—I consider Manitoba a first-class agricultural country. I have no fault to find with either the soil or the climate, and can recommend both.

James Morrow, Silver Spring.—Taking everything into consideration I think there are few countries where agricultural pursuits can be prosecuted with a better degree of success than in Manitoba. To my mind Manitoba holds out better inducements to men of limited capital, and those willing to work, than any other country in the world.

A. Card, Glenboro.—For mixed farming I know of no better country, and in this locality we are seldom hurt with either frost or hail—in fact, my crop has seldom been touched with frost and never with hail. My family, as well as myself, enjoy the climate. To prospective settlers I would say, come, make inquiries, examine and choose your own location, and make up your mind to succeed. Go to work as though everything depended upon your own personal exertion, and you will in five years look back and wonder how easily and well you have succeeded.

Joseph Wilkinson, Wattsvlew.—I have a high opinion of Manitoba and the improvement in my circumstances tells the story better than I can. The climate is very healthy and I do not find it too cold, but we must, of course, protect ourselves more than in the east. I would strongly advise settlement by men of small capital and who are willing to work. To such men there is a certainty of success. This is no country for a lazy man.

John Reynolds, Beulah.—I think well of Manitoba. Its climate is healthy and very little sickness prevails. Good prospects are ahead to those who will turn in and work. The land yields large averages in cereals; vegetables also yield well, and are of an excellent quality. Would advise settlers coming in not to expect to make a fortune in a year or two without work or trouble. With work and careful management here, a few years will make him a man independent.

J. K. Pelton, Brandon.—I consider Manitoba a very profitable grain-growing and stock country. The grasses that grow are eminently fitted for grazing and stock thrive rapidly. The climate is beautiful, except, perhaps, about a month in the winter that may be a little severe. I think a careful and industrious man with a thousand dollars capital cannot only do well, but should get rich. I can, without hesitation, recommend farmers from the east to come here and settle.

William Cumpstone, Boisvevain.—I think that a man who is steady and will work will do better here than in England. I have had draw-backs from drought and hail, but all I have is my own. The climate is good. It is, of course, cold in winter, but endurable. I have 135 acres of wheat this year, and a better crop I never saw in England.

John M. Campbell, Brandon.—I consider Manitoba ranks high as an agricultural country and is unequalled for mixed farming, as the feeding seasons are not as long as in the east, and when cattle are turned out to grass they fatten far quicker. I also think it ranks first as a dairy country as the nights are cool and there is no hot, sultry, close weather like what prevails in Eastern Canada. I like the climate with its pure, bracing air, which seems to make man and beast thrive and feel well.

James McCausland, Boisvevain.—Manitoba is a fine country for agricultural purposes. Its climate is excellent, with no sultry, close weather, such as I have seen in other countries. The winters are cold and no damp, foggy weather or rain prevails.

Alexander Scott, Heaslip.—Manitoba is a fine agricultural country and a finer crop than the present I never saw in Scotland. The climate is good for grain-growing. The winters are cold, but I do not suffer as much as I did when in Scotland working for farmers.

D. S. McKelvie, Brandon.—I like the climate and believe that to a man with moderate capital Manitoba offers advantages superior to any other country that I know of.

H. A. Cunningham, Hayfield.—Manitoba is an excellent agricultural country in every respect. The climate is healthy and invigorating for both man and beast. I have sold during this season \$320.00 worth of cattle. Settlers coming to this country must possess brave hearts and willing hands if they expect to succeed. I have not had less than twenty bushels of wheat to the acre for the last eight years.

Frank O. Fowler, Wawanesa.—Taking the past as a criterion I see no reason why farmers should not become rich. Intending settlers should not come expecting to find a nice piece of prairie land with a running stream and bank barn and plenty of wood on every section, but to be prepared to take hold and rough it for a year or two.

John Williams, Melita.—As an agricultural country Manitoba ranks A1, and I consider my prospects and those of the country as the very best. To the prospective settler I would say, make up your mind that you will have to work hard, and not to be easily discouraged. Leave all old prejudices behind, bring all the money you can and your wife as well.

Robert Smyth, Chater.—I consider that a young man with push and energy cannot do better than come to Manitoba. As an agricultural country I consider it superior to Ireland. If farmers' sons could only pocket their pride and come to this country and work for a year with a

farmer and then either buy land or homestead they would gain an experience that would be of use to them the remainder of their days. Men with families of sons should come here as they could settle most of their boys around them at a comparatively small cost.

Thomas Godkin, Morden.—This is a fine farming country, with a clear and healthy climate. The prospects I consider are good.

John Graham, Craigilea.—I like this country well. I have a splendid crop of grain, plenty of hay, and close to a supply of wood, water and good neighbors. This is the healthiest country that I have yet met. I was not healthy in the east, I have never been sick for an hour since I came to Manitoba.

J. D. Sturgeon, Melita.—The productiveness of the soil is very great, but farmers ought not to depend altogether upon grain raising. The climate on the whole is good and healthy. The prospects for the future are brighter than in the past. I would advise new settlers not to run into debt expecting to pay with next year's crops.

John Badger, Grund.—Having lived in Manitoba for nine years steadily I can safely say that a man's prospects here are one hundred per cent. better than in Eastern Canada. The climate is healthy and invigorating, and the winters, which seem to be such a terror to Eastern people, are certainly cold, but they don't contain that damp atmosphere which is so often found east of this.

James Kelly, Arnaud.—I prefer the climate of Manitoba to that of any other that I have been in, and also as a country for agricultural purposes. I feel that this is a good country for any man who wishes to make a living in farming. I have farmed in several places in the States for the space of forty-eight years, and am pleased that I came here.

D. A. Stewart, Pilot Mound.—Land excellent, water abundant and of good quality. The climate is extreme, but the winters in general are pleasant, in fact more so than summer. I consider the prospects are good, especially where mixed farming is indulged in. In beginning I would say go slow in breaking up a new farm and going largely into wheat growing and its expenses. I would recommend mixed farming.

William McKittrick, Crystal City.—I have been able to pay one hundred cents on the dollar, and any man who will work as hard as I have and use the same amount of judgment can do the same. I would say, give the country a fair trial, I am not sorry I came.

Angus Cameron, Craigilea.—My opinion is that any man who is willing to work can get along. The climate agrees well with me, and prospects for the future are glowing. I had no money when I came to the country and had to work out until I got a start. Market was far away until the Northern Pacific Railway was completed, but now I am starting to work on my farm in good shape.

H. B. McMillan, St Agathe.—I have a very high opinion of Manitoba as a stock-raising and farming country. The climate is of the most healthy nature. Any man that is industrious and willing to apply himself cannot help but do well in this country.

CROP RETURNS

From the reports received from persons operating threshing machines the following figures have been selected showing areas and results realized from wheat crops :

	ACRES.	BUSHELS
Robert Hall, Griswold.....	300	9,965
Allen Young, ".....	325	10,100
W. J. Good, ".....	250	8,336
Hiram Reed, ".....	275	7,150
Harrold Sorby, Portage la Paire ..	1,100	40,234
J. H. Angers, Elkhorn.....	40	1,520
Geo. A. Freeman ".....	70	2,310
" ".....	12	588
C. H. Freeman ".....	60	2,100
John Proud ".....	112	3,871
T. H. Thomas ".....	61	2,170

These farm extensively, but their exact average is not given. With one exception the yields given cover their entire crop :

	PER ACRE
H. C. Graham, M.P.P., Hayfield.....	41 bushels
H. A. Cunningham, ".....	40 "
Wm. Harper, ".....	40 "
R. E. A. Leach, Brandon	30 "

FRUITFUL MANITOBA



Shooting



FURROWS OVER A MILE LONG.

SULKY PLOWS.

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